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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-third session
10-14 May 1993 (part I)
Agenda item 8

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FIRST PART OF ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Wolfgang STÖCKL (Germany)

VI. REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

1. At its 10th meeting, the Committee considered the Report of the Joint Inspection Unit "United Nations system cooperation with multilateral financial institutions" (E/1993/18 and Add.1) and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (E/1993/18/Add.2).

Discussion

2. The Committee's discussion focused on two of the report's main conclusions: (a) that the United Nations system organizations must increase the competitiveness of their programmes to build effective cooperation relationships with the multilateral financial institutions and (b) that coordination and cooperation between these entities depended on advantage to both sides which was also mutually perceived as such. General support was expressed for those conclusions.

3. A number of delegations regretted that the report had been published in Geneva in January 1992, translated by April 1992 but had not been issued as a United Nations document until February 1993. In this connection, some delegations believed that an updated addendum would have been useful.

4. Comments on the views of the ACC ranged from some agreement with the allegations that the report was too general and that it omitted recent information to severe criticism of the ACC comments as being defensive and self-serving.

5. There was considerable support expressed for the view that more emphasis in the report should have been placed on policy coordination. On the other hand, it was noted that demonstration of competence through operational performance was often the most effective route to policy coordination.

6. Most delegations considered the 10 factors identified by the Inspectors helpful in developing successful cooperative relationships.

7. Some delegations agreed with ACC's charge of "bank bias" whereas others endorsed the Inspectors' opinion that it was the United Nations system organizations which would have to make the major effort if they wished to develop effective cooperative relationships with the multilateral financial institutions.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. The Committee considered the study to have been useful in stimulating a productive discussion of a serious problem of coordination.

9. The Committee viewed the report favourably and anticipated further discussion of it in the Economic and Social Council.

10. The Committee endorsed the report's recommendations and commended them to the attention of governing bodies and executive heads of the United Nations system organizations for their consideration.